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The art of small

NINT artist in residence brings nanotechnology into focus

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State of the University: 'Be open to change'

Bryan Alary

Persistence and resilience are "hard-wired" into the cultural fabric of the University of Alberta, an enduring legacy that will help the university community embrace new ideas and change in the coming months and years.

President Indira Samarasekera

"[I want everyone] to feel empowered to act and lead change in whatever role you can fulfil."

President Indira Samarasekera

used her Sept. 19 state of the university address to unveil a four-point action plan that will guide the university through budgetary challenges. Speaking from inside Convocation Hall, Samarasekera recalled how construction on the Old Arts Building suffered a series of delays a century ago due to unpredictable provincial funding.

Fortunately, these challenges did not deter U of A founding president Henry Marshall Tory, whose vision and persistence are at the foundation of the historic building.

"Today it's hard to imagine that this building had such a rocky beginning—and yet for me, this building and its story reminds me that persistence and resilience are as hard-wired into the U of A's culture as excellence and ambition," said Samarasekera.

Today, U of A faculty, students and staff face new challenges due to a 7.2 per cent provincial funding cut. Since those cuts were revealed last spring, Samarasekera said she and senior leadership and board chair Doug Goss have met numerous times with government officials to impress upon them the U of A's importance to Alberta's prosperity.

The government's own data show 89 per cent of U of A graduates live and work in the province, Samarasekera said. The U of A also has an essential role in educating the next generation with Alberta's labour shortfall expected to reach 114,000 workers over the next decade—62,000 of whom will require post-secondary education.

Despite these conversations, Samarasekera said, the university needs to move forward with the realization that Alberta is cur-tailing spending on post-secondary

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In demand



Some 6,614 students and 197 employers came together at the Butterdome Sept. 25 to find the right job marriage during CAPS: Your U of A Career Centre's annual Careers Day—the largest career fair at a post-secondary institute in Canada.

Honorary degree recipients named for fall convocation

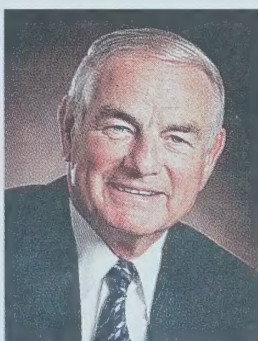
Michael Brown

The University of Alberta is set to add three names to its distinguished list of honorary degree recipients whose career achievements are surpassed only by what they have given in service to Canada.

Former Alberta premier Don Getty; Canadian singing/songwriting sensation and activist Sarah McLachlan; and business leader, philanthropist and U of A alumnus Charles Hantho will all receive honorary degrees during fall convocation Nov. 19 and 20.

"A University of Alberta honorary degree recognizes outstanding achievement," said U of A chancellor Ralph Young. "We are honoured to be celebrating three exceptional Canadians whose contributions to leadership, professional sport, industry and the performing arts may inspire our graduates."

After winding up a decade-long CFL career that included two Grey Cup victories as quarterback of the Edmonton Eskimos, Don Getty began a career in Alberta's oil sector that saw him become the youngest-ever independent oil company president when he formed Baldonnel Oil and Gas Ltd. in 1964. Getty made the jump to public service three years later, helping the Progressive Conservatives form the official opposition in 1967 before the party was swept to power in 1971. He became Alberta's first federal and intergovernmental affairs minister, a post he would use to ensure that Alberta was an equal partner in making national decisions. Later, Getty would become the minister of energy and natural resources, a role in which he established Alberta's constitutional right to ownership of its natural resources,



(From left) Don Getty, Charles Hantho and Sarah McLachlan will receive honorary degrees during the U of A's fall convocation Nov. 19–20.

extolled the virtues of economic diversification and helped negotiate the first oilsands project. In 1985, Getty returned from a six-year hiatus from politics to be elected as Alberta's 11th premier, a post he would hold until stepping down in 1992. As premier, Getty's profile transcended Alberta's borders as he was called upon to play a leadership role during negotiations for national issues such as free trade and the various accords regarding Quebec sovereignty, while further securing Alberta's energy sector. In 1998 he was appointed an officer of the Order of Canada. Don Getty will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree Nov. 19 at 3 p.m.

Coming off of Grammy Awards for her hits *Building a Mystery* (1997) and *I Will Remember You* (1999), no star in the music industry shone brighter than Halifax, Nova Scotia-born artist Sarah McLachlan. But her influence on the music industry runs deeper than a string of hits and 14 albums since 1988 that have sold some 40 million copies worldwide.

McLachlan is the founder of Lilith Fair, the historic all-women concert tour that raised more than \$10 million for national and local women's organizations and elevated the profile of many female artists. Realizing that many children had little or no access to music, McLachlan founded the Sarah McLachlan School of Music, an after-school free music education program for underserved and at-risk children from low-income families in her longtime home of Vancouver. Beyond music, McLachlan has used her international profile to raise millions of dollars for AIDS sufferers, and has put her name and much of her philanthropic effort behind a number of animal-welfare groups. She was made an officer of the Order of Canada in 1999. Sarah McLachlan will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree Nov. 20 at 10 a.m.

Charles Hantho, a U of A chemical engineering alumnus (1953), has had a long and

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folio

Volume 51 Issue 2

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Water and oil the right mix for University Cup winner

Bev Betkowski

David Percy loves Alberta's rugged mountains and wild prairies. So when he joined the University of Alberta's Faculty of Law in 1969 and was encouraged by his dean to teach water law, the opportunity to spend time outdoors while studying his chosen profession proved irresistible.

Percy's growing interest in water law then spread to the broader field of natural resources law, which "inevitably led to oil and gas law," he recalls. Today, his decades of scholarly dedication and contribution to the understanding of these touchstone subjects has earned Percy the 2013 University Cup, the highest honour a U of A academic can receive.

"The University of Alberta has always supported me in my teaching and in valuable collaborations with fellow researchers in other disciplines, and I am extraordinarily grateful for that."

David Percy

Percy is also the first recipient from the Faculty of Law ever to be awarded the University Cup, and as a former dean, is proud to turn the spotlight on his home faculty of 44 years.

"We are a small faculty of 500 students, so the fact that this year we won both the University Cup and the J. Gordin Kaplan Award for Excellence in Research is recognition that our faculty does



University Cup winner David Percy (centre) receives congratulations from Martin Ferguson-Pell (left) and Lorne Babiuk during Celebrate! Sept. 19.

meaningful work that has a real impact on Alberta and Canada."

The University Cup is awarded to a faculty member who has achieved outstanding distinction in scholarly research, teaching and service to the U of A and to the greater community. Percy is among top faculty, staff and students who were recognized at the university's annual Celebrate! Teaching, Learning, Research event Sept. 19.

Percy joined the U of A as an assistant professor after earning degrees from Oxford University and the University of Virginia, and has carved out a career as a respected authority in the intricacies of resource law, as well as contracts and construction law—all of them touching aspects of everyday life, though people may not realize it, he said.

"Law is a reflection of our society, so it's always interesting. If you look at the problems that people are trying to solve, they constantly involve shifts in social attitudes. The law has played a major role in changing views of almost everything, from women's rights to consumer protection."

That depth and breadth of his interest in law has guided Percy's career at the U of A as a leading researcher, policy adviser and teacher in his areas of expertise. "There is no better place in the world to be if you want to study water and oil issues."

Deeply intrigued by the connection between water and energy, Percy has devoted his career to exploring—and understanding—related complex issues ranging from water rights to the disposition of interests in oil and gas.

"There are so many difficult questions arising as we develop these natural resources, and I want to help influence public policy so that we as Albertans can find the answers we need."

Among his long list of accomplishments, Percy served as founding chair of the University of Alberta Water Initiative, was appointed as the law faculty's first holder of the Borden Ladner Gervais Chair of Energy Law in 2010 and worked on the preparation of Alberta's Water Act (enacted in 1999). Currently, Percy is reviewing critiques of Alberta's water

allocation system, including public input received through this year's provincial Water Conversation.

Internationally, Percy served as a visiting legal research scientist for the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and helped write the framework for Namibia's successful 2003 Aquaculture Act.

Closer to home, Percy served as dean of law from 2002 to 2009. Under his guidance, the Faculty of Law established a joint degree program with the University of Colorado, renovated the Law Centre and raised \$20 million for the faculty during the U of A's centenary campaign in 2008, which resulted in funding for new teaching positions and scholarships.

Percy remains active in the classroom, teaching contracts, water law, and oil and gas law. Using everyday examples to which his students can relate, Percy is rewarded to see their evolving understanding of legal analysis. "It's as if you see the light bulbs going on in their heads during the course of the year."

When his students graduate from the U of A, Percy hopes they leave with "a clear grasp of applicable principles in law, a starting point for solving problems in their areas and an awareness of ethics and the wider implications of their subject."

And as a teacher and researcher, he is gratified to have witnessed the U of A's growth as a leading research and teaching university over the past four decades.

"The University of Alberta has always supported me in my teaching and in valuable collaborations with fellow researchers in other disciplines, and I am extraordinarily grateful for that." ■

State of the University: Embracing culture change and empowering community

Continued from page 1

education along with most governments in North America. The university community, she said, must be "open to change," and to considering courses of actions we once hoped to avoid—including the voluntary severance program.

"We have had to make some difficult decisions," she said, recounting the \$28 million in spending cuts this year. With a further \$56 million to cut in 2014-15, the entire university community must work together to mitigate further losses and preserve and enhance the U of A's core mission of excellence in teaching, research and service.

To help meet these challenges, Samarasekera outlined a four-point plan for the next three years: academic transformation, sustainable financial models, efficient administration and culture change.

On the first point, academic transformation, Samarasekera stressed a need for a more vibrant graduate research culture and differentiated funding model. Faculties must also work more collaboratively to reduce duplication and leverage strengths in both academic programming and administration, she said.

The university must achieve a balanced, sustainable, flexible financial model, she said, stressing the need for changes to compensation, revenue generation and sharing, tuition, philanthropy and budgeting.

Efficient administration is not new but central to our transformation, she said, noting how central units have already cut three per cent of expenses this year compared with 1.5 per cent in

faculties. In the future, all portfolios and faculties will need to simplify, consolidate and find new ways of doing business to eliminate duplication.

Lastly, the university must embrace a culture change, with transparency and clarity in decision-making at the core, she said, pointing to new weekly Friday bulletins on Colloquy. The goal is to help the entire community "feel empowered to act and lead change in whatever role you can fulfil," and work in a culture of collegiality, respect and trust.

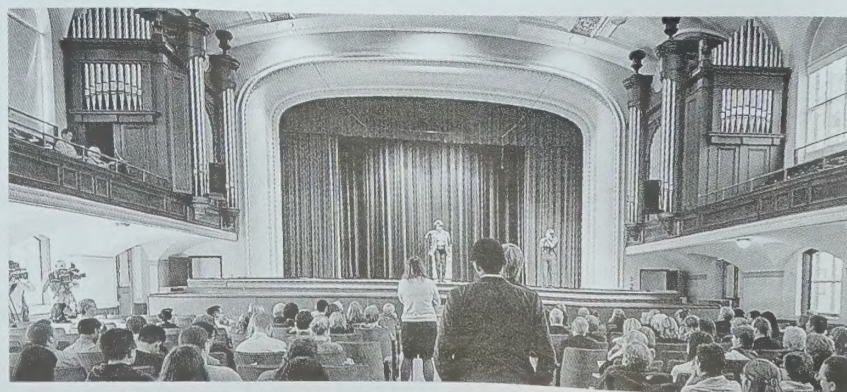
"This new commitment to communication and transparency is not only my responsibility or that of the deans—it is, again, the shared responsibility of every member of our community."

Following a question-and-answer session that touched on graduate student enrolment, international student tuition and senior leadership's

conversations with government, Samarasekera gave the final word to Goss, whom she credited as the U of A's great champion in his numerous meetings with government ministers, MLAs and the public.

Goss reinforced how the entire university community must work together—steadfast—in the U of A's "noble" and "right" pursuit of being among the world's great public universities.

"That isn't a nice-to-have, that's a must. This is a province with \$30 billion in endowments in the bank, it has no debt, it has zero unemployment, highest disposable income in North America," he said. "For us to aspire to have a university that achieves at a level any less than that sells this university short, it sells this province short, it sells its people short and indeed it sells the country short." ■



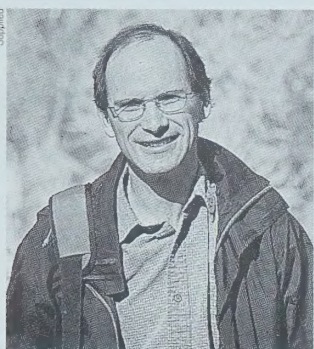
President Indira Samarasekera fields questions during her State of the University Sept. 19 at Convocation Hall.

SSHRC invests \$4.5 M in U of A research insights

Michael Brown

University of Alberta-led research projects worth almost \$4.5 million were named as part of the federal government's continued investment in the search for solutions to today's most pressing social, cultural, technological, environmental and economic issues.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada awarded U of A researchers 22 Insight Grants to support the highest levels of research excellence. Another six projects were awarded Insight Development Grants designed to support research in the initial stages, and U of A researchers



Tom Hinch

were named on seven collaborations, worth more than \$1 million, run out of other Canadian universities.

Tom Hinch, a researcher in the Faculty of Physical Education and Recreation, received a \$66,000 Insight Development Grant to provide insight into the role that sport tourism events play in resource-based communities.

More specifically, Hinch is looking at the case of the Canadian Death Race—a 125-kilometre ultra-marathon run through the rugged terrain of Grande Cache, Alberta.

"I am interested in the 'place making' function of this event—that is, how it influences the meanings that the racers, volunteers, other visitors and the residents have of the community and surrounding area," said Hinch.

He says he hopes the research will help us to understand how events like this can affect community identity and image from the perspectives of the many stakeholders, which include event organizers, the municipality, volunteers, the community at large and the runners.

"I believe the research goes a long way to connect the university with rural Alberta," said Hinch, who leaves running the Death Race to his co-investigator Nick Holte. "This

research has the potential of demonstrating the relevance of theory to practice."

Yu Ma, a professor in the Alberta School of Business, received almost \$82,000 to study the modern marketing phenomenon of brand alliance and its impact on brand values and market structure.

Ma says brand alliance is a popular business strategy that is used across every sector. He says the U of A, for instance, has a number of brand alliances, pointing out the U of A-branded MasterCard for alumni for one.

"I am trying to understand how this type of brand alliance works, and when it benefits or damages the parties involved," said Ma.

He says he hopes his findings can be turned into practical uses for business and non-profit organizations alike, and add to the reputation of strong research outcomes at the Alberta School of Business.

"The U of A really creates a very positive atmosphere for doing research," said Ma. "Our department chair and dean do as much as they can to foster a good research-focused



Yu Ma

environment, and they let us know how much they value solid research—you know your effort will be appreciated and rewarded." ■

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada competition results for Insight Development Grants

(U of A collaborators in brackets)

Jennifer Argo \$74,151 The Role of Product Identity in Recycling Decisions

Egor Matveyev \$63,842 (Lukas Roth) Do CEOs Matter? Evidence From Exogenous Variation Due to Deaths

Emily Kennedy \$70,230 (John Parkins) Fed Up: A Case Study of Food-Related Civic Practices in Two Canadian Cities

Tom Hinch \$66,311 (Nicholas Holt) Place Making and Sport Tourism Events: The Case of the Canadian Death Race in Grande Cache

Geneviève Gauthier \$74,839 What Are Students Learning in Virtual-Cases? Investigating the Validity of Assessment Models

Joel Gehman \$70,729 Predatory Selection: An Analysis of Cultural Vulnerability and Opportunity Exploitation in Unconventional Gas Well Drilling

Jennifer Argo is a collaborator on a project entitled Crowdfunding the Future: Examining the Implications of Innovative Fundraising in a Digital Era, run out of the University of Calgary, that received \$68,809.

Paul Newton is a collaborator on a project entitled Professional Learning of Teachers in Post-Secondary Vocational Education, run out of the Northern Alberta Institute of Technology, that received \$72,373.

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada competition results for Insight Grants

Imre Szeman \$152,002 On Empty: The Cultural Politics of Oil

Dip Kapoor \$268,386 Untouchability, Casteism and Schooling in Rural India: Exploring Local Response and Resistance

Gregory Forth \$96,731 Urbanizing Spirits, the Relic Trade, Ecological Impacts and Palaeoanthropological Encounters in Eastern Indonesia

William Foster \$332,746 (Roy Suddaby) Defining Rhetorical History: Exploring the Work of Corporate Archivists/Historians

Carrie Smith-Prei \$150,003 Technologies of Popfeminist Activism

Robert Gephart \$108,118 Temporalities in Risk Sensemaking

John Langdon \$52,329 A War Over Water: The 1531 English Statute of Sewers and Its Impact Upon Local Politics, Economies and Environments

Linda Laidlaw \$233,699 A Comparative Investigation of Pedagogical Possibilities of Digital Tools for Family and School Early Literacy Education

Ofer Arazy \$363,591 Wiki DNA: Uncovering the Patterns of Online Collaboration

Patricia Reay \$208,276 (Royston Greenwood) Change in a Complex Mature Organizational Field: The Case of Addictions Services

Larry Prochner \$199,635 (Anna Kirova) Culture and Practice in Early Childhood Teacher Education in Namibia, Tanzania and Canada

Yu Ma \$81,729 An Empirical Investigation of Ingredient Branding Strategy and Its Consequence on Partner Brands

Chloe Taylor \$151,307 Sex, Crime, and the Family: Genealogical and Critical Perspectives

John Considine \$39,536 English Dictionaries in the 16th Century

Norman Brown \$85,990 Understanding the Transitional Impact of Personal and Public Events

Jean DeBernardi \$125,666 Material Identity: The Anthropology of Chinese Tea Culture

Kenneth Mouré \$124,958 Marché Noir: Capitalism's Black Heart in France, 1939–1950

Marina Endicott \$44,623 The Difference, a Novel

Sandra Rein \$79,223 (Janet Wesselius) Will We Know We're Free: Rosa Luxemburg, Emma Goldman, Raya Dunayevskaya and Women's Negotiations With Freedom

Keavy Martin \$499,371 Beyond Reconciliation: Indigenous Arts, Public Engagement and the Aftermath of Residential Schools

Deanna Williamson \$489,293 (Kaysi Kushner, Nicole Pitre, Berna Skrypnik) Family Functioning in Everyday Life: The Experiences of Families with Young Children and Diverse Compositions and Ethno-Cultural Origins

Robert Nichols \$206,732 The New Politics of Land: Colonialism, Dispossession and Territorial Belonging

Eric Stephens is a collaborator on a project entitled Financial Risk Transfer and Regulation, run out of the University of Waterloo, that received \$67,692.

Elizabeth Halpenny is a collaborator on a project entitled Acceptance and Use of Mobile Devices in a Free-Choice Context, run out of the University of Manitoba, that received \$228,535.

Wenran Jiang is a collaborator on a project entitled La politique et les Intérêts de la Chine dans l'Arctique, run out of the Université Laval, that received \$395,250.

Alice Nakamura is a collaborator on a project entitled Productivity: Measures, Measurement Errors and Public Policies, run out of the University of British Columbia, that received \$108,600.

Sadok El Ghouli is a collaborator on a project entitled Household Finance, Corporate Policies and Firm Cost of Financing, run out of Saint Mary's University, that received \$129,980.

U of A offers degree program abroad

News Staff

The University of Alberta has launched its first degree program to be offered internationally, thanks to a long-standing partnership with a university in China.

The Alberta School of Business officially launched its master of financial management program Sept. 14 in Shenzhen, China. The announcement coincided with the school's new status as the 48th-ranked business school in the world according to the Academic Ranking of World Universities.

"The MFM program in China represents a significant strategic move on behalf of the Alberta School of Business and the university," said Joseph Doucet, dean of business. "As the first University of Alberta program delivered abroad, it is a major milestone in the school's internationalization program and will provide the school with an effective platform to promote our excellence in China."

The MFM is a one-year program culminating in a degree from the U of A. It is operated in collaboration with Xi'an Jiaotong University, a 30-year partner of the Alberta School of Business in a relationship first established by professor emeritus Rolf Mirus.

The program in China will be delivered in English, with classes held on two consecutive weekends every month. U of A faculty teach the first weekend, and Xi'an faculty conduct tutorials and special topics on the second weekend. The program's one-week capstone course will be delivered in Edmonton in October 2014. The MFM is also offered in Calgary, with plans to expand it to Shanghai as well. ■

HD recipient led shift in how the world handles chemicals

Continued from page 1

successful career in Canadian manufacturing industries. A highlight of his career, as CEO of Canadian Industries Ltd., was the role he played in developing and implementing an industry-wide initiative for the safe handling of chemicals from "cradle to grave." A greater adherence to chemical safety had already begun to transform the chemicals manufacturing industry by the early 1980s but took on a high degree of drama and urgency with the 1984 explosion at the Union Carbide factory in Bhopal, India, that killed at least 3,780 citizens and injured half a million more. Instantly, Bhopal became the world's worst industrial disaster and drew international attention to the hazards associated with chemicals and the responsibilities of chemical companies. As chairman of the Canadian Chemical Producers Association in 1986, Hantho led the introduction

of the industry's comprehensive "responsible care" initiative to the public at large. The "responsible care" approach was quickly emulated in the United States and worldwide. Hantho was made a member of the Order of Canada in 1997. Throughout his successes as a visionary businessman, community builder and philanthropist, Hantho has never lost sight of the opportunities his U of A education afforded him. Over the years, he has been heavily involved at York University and, despite residing in Ontario, has always kept the U of A in his thoughts. He volunteered for the Faculty of Engineering's Bridges to the 21st Century fundraising campaign in 1988 and is currently in the process of establishing an endowment fund earmarked for responsible and sustainable engineering. Charles Hantho will receive an honorary doctor of laws degree Nov. 20 at 3 p.m. ■

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Alumni Weekend 2013: Don't miss a thing

September 27 & 28

Walk Through a Century & 100 Faces, 100 Years Photo Exhibit. Visit our display in the Li Ka Shing foyer featuring the top education and research moments from the U of A Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry's first 100 years. Also included is a photo exhibit by third-year medical student Gregory Sawisky. The exhibit includes portraits and quotes from 100 current medical students about their choice to enter medicine. Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation.

September 27

Green and Gold Day. "Ring out a cheer for our Alberta!" Show your pride in the U of A by wearing green and gold—the school colours. Join us in Quad at noon for a U of A family photo.

Anna Maria Tremonti Speaking Engagement. All alumni are welcome to join this captivating speaker as she shares some of her experiences from 30 years of reporting across Canada and the world, and explains how they have helped form her world view. 7–8:15 p.m. Myer Horowitz Theatre.

September 28

Golden Bears Football Team vs. Calgary Dinos. 5 p.m. Foote Field; South Campus.

Saturday Scholars Series. Share some of the knowledge of our top teaching and research talent. Come along to these free, 30-minute presentations and hear about the amazing work being done on campus in anthropology, health, social sciences and natural sciences. Talks include Surveillance: The Master Patterns given by Kevin Haggerty; Aging: There Is Hope by Wendy Duggleby; The Origins and Early Evolution of Modern Humans in Tanzania by Pamela Willoughby; The Large Hadron Collider: A Discovery Machine by James Pinfold; Planning for Extreme Weather by Gerhard Reuter and Sandeep Agrawal; MEDutainment by Sarah Forgie; Smart-e-Pants by Vivian Mushahwar; and Leaving the "White Stuff" to Work with the "Right Stuff"—14 Years Supporting Manned Space Flight by Doug Hamilton. 11:30 a.m. CCIS.

Physics Talks. The Department of Physics invites you to talks, tours and our new observatory. All events are free and suitable for general audiences.

12:30 p.m. – Ghosts in the Ice: Searching for the Universe's Highest Energy Particles at the South Pole

1 p.m. – Black Holes and Revelations

1:30 p.m. – Ultrafast Lasers: Observing Nature in a Trillionth of a Second

2:30 p.m. – The Deaths and Afterlives of Stars

3 p.m. – Space Exploration and Environment

3:30 p.m. – Plate Tectonics, Earthquakes and Volcanoes

Alumni Dinner & Dance. The marquee event of Alumni Weekend, the dinner is always a special occasion where alumni come together to salute our alma mater, celebrate with family and friends, and enjoy a fantastic evening. Photographers will be on hand to turn fond memories into mementos. \$80 per person. 6 p.m. Shaw Conference Centre.

The Party in Quad. Watch Peter Sellers in the enduringly hilarious



The Party in the big tent in Quad. Popcorn, licorice and pop available (cash only). BYOBlanket. No registration required. 7:30–10 p.m.

September 29

University Symphony & Symphonic Wind Ensemble in Concert. 2 p.m. at Convocation Hall in the Arts Building. ■

Event co-ordinator thrives on pride and energy of Alumni Weekend

Michael Brown

When Colleen Elliott began her role as a special events co-ordinator with Alumni Relations in 2006, her team of three liaised with faculty partners to pull off a handful of alumni-related events throughout the year, the biggest being Alumni Weekend. Alumni Weekend that year was something the university could be proud of—the alumni award winners were inspirational, the hugs were



Colleen Elliott

long and the weekend seemed oh-so short—and yet the festivities still held the potential to be so much more.

Eight years later, Elliott says seemingly every idea to make the festivities better has been allowed to blossom into a can't-miss nostalgia extravaganza.

"It really is a great team experience. For a month we are all dedicated to Alumni Weekend—everybody pitches in, there is no questioning of it, grumbling about it, we just do it," said Elliott, an alumna herself

who was made an events manager this summer. "The ideas that the staff comes up with—whether it is how to streamline things, a new event or how we can make this a better event and spread the word—bring about a creative, positive energy, and at the end we all celebrate what we've accomplished, that we pulled together and people enjoyed themselves."

Part of how Elliott celebrates is getting out from behind the scenes and chatting with alumni.

"I have a real soft spot for our senior alumni," she said. "They went to school here back when everyone lived in residence—they lived in Athabasca and Pembina halls, and they formed bonds that have lasted for 60 years. They have great stories; things we would never be able to do now, they did. They share a real camaraderie, they have terrific memories and have a real appreciation for the time they spent here."

She added, "I wish I knew more of them and I wish the community knew more about them, but to meet some of them is a real privilege."

The rest of the year when Elliott is not in Alumni Weekend mode, she oversees events designed to ensure the community hears from as many alumni as the university can muster. Elliott is in charge of organizing the ongoing educational opportunities for alumni, including the popular Educated Alumni series of talks in which the university highlights alumni who are experts in their chosen fields in a series of talks from finance and cooking to movie criticism and gardening.

Whether it's listening to alumni speak at lectures or hearing of their successes during the Alumni Recognition Awards, Elliott says she always leaves the event feeling reinvigorated.

"As an alumna, the U of A has been a big part of my life and I'm very proud of it," she says. "It's a key part of Edmonton as a city; I like seeing what our alumni have accomplished and the impact they have on the world." ■

Current and former faculty, staff honoured at Alumni Awards

Folio and New Trail Staff

Among the numerous alumni celebrated at the 2013 Alumni Recognition Awards Sept. 25 for their achievements and support of their alma mater are a number of former and current faculty and staff.

Doug Stollery, '76 LLB, whose arguments before the Supreme Court of Canada helped amend Alberta legislation to include protection on the basis of sexual orientation, was one of four winners of the Alumni Association's Distinguished Alumni Award. Stollery was a longtime sessional instructor in the Faculty of Law and is a supporter for the Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services.

Richard Fedorak, '76 BMedSc, '78 MD, a professor of medicine in the division of gastroenterology and an associate vice-president of research, won an Alumni Honour Award for a career working on intestinal diseases such as peptic ulcer disease and inflammatory bowel disease.

Also receiving an Alumni Honour Award was Rudy Wiebe, '56 BA, '60 MA, '09 DLitt (Honorary), one of Canada's most influential writers, who served as a professor in the Department of English and Film Studies from 1967 until his retirement in 1992. His work has earned him widespread recognition, including two Governor General's Awards for Fiction—in 1973 for *The Temptations of Big Bear* and in 1994 for *A Discovery of Strangers*.

Other Alumni Honour Awards went to the late Peter B.R. Allen, '54 BSc, '56 MD, who held a U of A clinical appointment and was known internationally for his contributions to neurosurgery; Elizabeth "Betty" Davies (Bruce), '69 Dip(Nu), '70 BScN, an advocate for children with life-threatening conditions and their families, who began her academic career at the U of A; and Alexander Pringle, '68 BA, one of Canada's most respected criminal defence lawyers, who has been a sessional lecturer for the Faculty of Law since 1982.

Don Horwood, '79 MA, head coach of the Golden Bears from 1983 to 2009, who led his Bears to three CIAU national championships and nearly 600 wins, was named to the U of A's Sports Wall of Fame.

Robert Lampard, '64 MD, '66 BSc, '67 MSc, who was named a top 100 Alberta Physician of the 20th Century, was one of two recipients of the Alumni Centenary Award for Voluntary Service. Lampard's work to uncover the accomplishments of Alberta's medical pioneers earned him an adjunct professorship in medical history in 2006.

The second volunteer award went to Penny Lightfoot, '77 Dip(RM), '78 BSc(PT), '83 MHSA. An executive director with Alberta Health Services, Lightfoot has been involved with the School of Public Health for more than a decade and has served as external representative to the school's faculty evaluation committee since its inception in 2007. ■



The resurrected Tuck Shop in Quad is serving its famed cinnamon buns Sept. 27–29.

Are You a Winner?



Congratulations to Raquel De Leon who won a Butterdome butter dish prize pack as part of Folio's Sept. 13 "Are You a Winner?" contest. De Leon identified the photo as that of the medallion set in Alumni Walk, located just east of SUB. Up for grabs this week is another Butterdome butter dish. To win it, simply identify where the subjects pictured are located and email your answer to folio@ualberta.ca by noon on Monday, Oct. 7, and you will be entered into the draw.

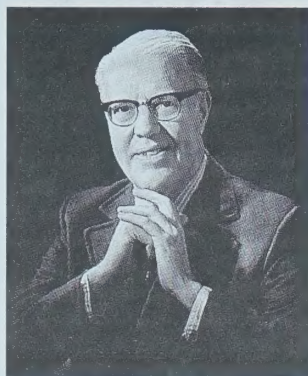
staff spotlight

Former dean inducted to the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame

Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry Staff

Amid its centennial festivities at Alumni Weekend, the University of Alberta medical school celebrates another history-making moment: the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame inducts the late Walter C. Mackenzie recognizing the former dean as a visionary health leader and builder of academic health science.

"To have this honour bestowed on a former dean on the week when many of his former students are gathering for a major celebration is serendipitous," said D. Douglas Miller, dean of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry. "Dr. Mackenzie is best known for setting the bar very high. He expected nothing short of excellence from medical students—a legacy that remains today as our



Walter C. Mackenzie

graduates continue to score number one in Canadian medical exams."

The Canadian Medical Hall of Fame noted that Mackenzie was instrumental in the development of numerous medical and surgical programs during his tenure as dean

of medicine. They also credited him for his visionary foresight of academic health centres, recognizing his "pivotal role" in the formation of the provincial organization that funds medical research, formerly known as the Alberta Heritage Foundation for Medical Research. And they recognized him for his research excellence, which led to countless national and international awards.

Roger Cumming, a graduate of the MD class of '63, remembers Mackenzie's larger-than-life presence: "He addressed us on the first day of our classes in 1959. He told us that we should check who was seated on our right and then check who was seated on our left, and note that one of three of us would probably not be in second year. He lived up to his threat and we graduated 40 out of an initial 65 in our first-year class."

Mackenzie served in the Second World War, moving to the rank of commander surgeon. Born in 1909 in Glace Bay, Cape Breton, he received his medical degree from Dalhousie University. He then pursued his surgical training at McGill University and the Mayo Clinic before moving to Alberta. He remained a teacher and surgeon throughout his stellar career and is remembered fondly as a true gentleman, scholar and international medical statesman.

During Alumni Weekend, the public will have a rare opportunity to listen to a "Conversation With Four Deans" in the Li Ka Shing Centre for Health Research Innovation. The four leaders in Alberta medicine will address how health care and medical school have changed over the last century, including recognition of

how deans such as Walter Mackenzie led the faculty in its formative years.

Mackenzie will be inducted posthumously in Kingston, Ont., on April 24. About 500 academic, health-care and business leaders from across Canada will gather for this evening of celebration, which will also mark the 20th anniversary of the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame.

Established in 1994, the Canadian Medical Hall of Fame is a national charitable organization that fosters future generations of health professionals through the celebration of Canada's rich medical history, scholarship programs, and the delivery of both local and nationwide education programs for youth. Each year, up to six individuals are recognized for their extraordinary contribution to improving the health of Canadians and people worldwide. ■

Arts professor declared a knight of the French order of excellence

Laura Ly

It's been an award-winning year for University of Alberta professor Anna Gural-Migdal. Not only did she receive a teaching award from the Faculty of Arts earlier this year, but she also recently received France's highest academic distinction, the Order of Academic Palms, from France's minister of education.

At the recent order ceremony at the Alliance Française of Edmonton, Gural-Migdal was declared a knight of the order and decorated with a medallion in recognition of her merits, talents and exemplary activities by Calgary's consul of France, Jean-Charles Bou. Napoleon I created the Academic Palms in 1808 to recognize eminent members of the University of Paris. It was extended in 1868 to honour anyone who renders illustrious service to French education and culture, and is France's oldest non-military decoration.

"I am honoured to receive this distinction, since it recognizes the bridge between my country of origin, France, and Alberta, where I have lived for almost 20 years," said Gural-Migdal, a professor in the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies. "I have always considered myself privileged to represent two cultures, to hold citizenship in two countries and to champion bilingualism."

Gural-Migdal was especially praised for her contributions to teaching 19th-century French literature and film, and for her interdisciplinary research on Emile Zola, leader of a literary movement called naturalism and one of the most famous French writers of all time.

When Gural-Migdal first read Zola as a grad student, she became fascinated by what she describes as the visual dimension of his writing. "Zola's use of metaphors and symbols, all organized into complicated networks, is remarkable."



Anna Gural-Migdal receives the medallion of the Order of Academic Palms from Calgary's consul of France, Jean-Charles Bou, during the order ceremony at the Alliance Française in Edmonton.

She has since dedicated the bulk of her research career to studying his works, and through her research and role as president of AIZEN—an internationally recognized scholarly society dedicated to Zola and naturalism—Gural-Migdal is now regarded as one of the world's foremost specialists on Zola.

Her research uses new theories and parameters to examine Zola's texts in relation to cinema, photography, painting and video. "I'm especially inspired by the connections between literature and film. I have studied the literary aspects of film, especially in cinematic adaptations of Zola's works or the work of filmmakers who were highly influenced by the way Zola conceived his novels," she said.

Gural-Migdal's passion for 19th-century French literature and film is most evident when she teaches. Her

teaching excellence was recognized with a Faculty of Arts Undergraduate Teaching Award, which honours instructors who go above and beyond for students. "When I teach literature courses, I do not promote a narrow perspective. I try to make the texts come alive."

Gural-Migdal constantly tries to impart the significance of studying writers whose works "never go out of date."

"I tell students that it is really quite demanding to do studies in literature, since you need to have a logical and scientific mind, sensitivity to literature as an art form and a broad general cultural background. In Japan, people who have doctorates in literature are hired to be CEOs of large companies. Studies in literature can lead in surprising directions," she said.

She especially loves teaching French cinema, which gives students a different lens to reflect on their own lives and situations. "My greatest satisfaction as a professor is ... to see their appreciation for the value of studying French literature or film from angles they had never before imagined, adding a new dimension to their understanding of all aspects of life and across cultural differences."

Gural-Migdal says she has flourished as both a teacher and a researcher since joining the U of A in 1996. She identifies the Department of Modern Languages and Cultural Studies as "ideal" ground for her career because it provides her with freedom to develop and teach courses in an optimal way for her students.

"The Faculty of Arts encourages and supports a very high-quality teaching and learning environment. The professors hired are also serious scholars and, as we know, active research contributes to excellence in teaching. The University of Alberta is one of the best universities in Canada and North America. I am very proud to be a professor in such a highly regarded institution and to contribute to its excellence." ■

Timing and process for undergraduate continuing awards

Lisa Collins, Vice-Provost & University Registrar

Recently, the Office of the Registrar reviewed the timing of two undergraduate continuing awards: Undergraduate Academic Scholarships and Undergraduate Leadership Awards. Our goal for this review was to better serve students by providing scholarship information to continuing students sooner, to help inform their planning and decision-making for the next academic year.

As part of the review, we listened to and received feedback from students and the campus community. We also conducted an analysis of processes, resources and needs. Each of these items was assessed and given careful thought and consideration. Now that we have undergone this practice, we've had time to determine the final timing and process for these two awards.

This year, the Office of the Registrar is changing the timing of the awards adjudication process from the fall term to the winter

term. Starting for the 2014-15 academic year and going forward, continuing students will apply for these awards in the winter term, and if awarded, will be provided funds 50 per cent in the fall term and 50 per cent in the winter term. However, to provide time for students to prepare for this transition in timing and help mitigate impact to students during this period, for the 2013-14 academic year, continuing students in their second, third or fourth years will apply for these continuing awards this fall, with decisions, offers and 100 per cent disbursement of funds occurring in this winter term. This new outline of timing and process aligns us for fall/winter disbursement going forward, while also giving students time to adjust and plan in advance for the new change in timing.

Application for these awards will open for the fall term in mid-October 2013, and in January/February 2014 for the winter term.

To accommodate this busy transition year, resources across the university will be strained. With five competitions happening

the open door

at once, it puts additional pressure on the Registrar's Office, units, faculties and committees to ensure the awards are assessed, offered and disbursed in a timely fashion. However, the Registrar's Office is making resources available in order to make this happen. The co-operation of staff, faculty and committee members, along with their willingness to help out, further demonstrates this commitment.

Through the generosity of our donors, these two awards programs allow the university to disburse \$483,500 annually through awards to 169 students. The average amount per student award winner is \$2,800. The changes outlined are in adjudication timing and disbursement timing only. There is no withholding of these scholarship funds. These awards are supported by endowed funds. We have not changed the award terms, the



Lisa Collins

number of recipients or the amount of the awards. It is our goal to ensure that every dollar of these donated funds is awarded to our top students.

Thank you to the campus community, as well as numerous staff and stakeholders, for their feedback and support to help make this solution and new process possible.

For an outline of this timing and process, and for further updates, go to registrarsoffice.ualberta.ca. ■

Award-winning support staff help researchers hit their stride

Michael Brown

Despite vastly different job descriptions and talents, the most telling trait that 2013 University of Alberta Support Staff Research Enhancement Award winners Shannon Erichsen and Charlene Nielsen share is the gratification they get out of helping others hit their stride.

"One of my favourite things is being at a conference or a department research day and seeing a very well-prepared student present their work," said Erichsen, who is now in her third year as undergraduate education team lead in the Department of Surgery. "When you see them go through their project and answer questions with such confidence, it is such a great feeling."

"You know you are on to something good and you need to keep it up."

Erichsen, who assists in innovating the surgery content of the medical school curriculum, is trying to duplicate the success she had during her 11 years as medical education program assistant in the Department of Radiology and Diagnostic Imaging. One of Erichsen's previous triumphs was creating a more structured and collaborative summer student research experience between students and clinicians by showing students how their research can fit into a physician's career.

"The only way this is successful is if you have buy-in, and I have been so lucky to have people I work with be passionate about recognizing that this is important," said Erichsen, who added the sooner you can expose medical students to clinical experiences and research, the sooner they can make informed

decisions about what they want to do within their upcoming careers in medicine.



Shannon Erichsen (left) and Charlene Nielsen each received the U of A Support Staff Research Enhancement Award for 2013.

"It's important for them to see where their research can fit into their medical career and see that they can have a great practice and still have time to do research within that practice."

Nielsen, a geographic information systems (GIS) analyst in the Department of Biological Sciences since 2001, says her secret to others' success is her own perpetual need to be better at the job she still considers her "dream job."

"It is such an interdisciplinary science that you can bring in ideas from all these different disciplines," said Nielsen. "I love to continue to learn and expand my horizons. There is never any limit to what you can do."

To help her grow her own skills, Nielsen, who provides GIS support for an average of 60 researchers and almost as many projects per year, began organizing GIS Day in 2003 as a way for the GIS following on campus to stay abreast of each other's work.

"It's so nice to see what everybody else is doing in the various disciplines, and get together to figure out different methods and solutions to GIS problems instead of reinventing the wheel," said Nielsen, who has organized the 10th anniversary of GIS Day for Nov. 20. "It is also a great way to show off the amazing research the students and researchers in my department are doing."

Nielsen says thanks come in many ways—whether they are expressed verbally on the spot, quietly inserted as an acknowledgement in theses and scientific publications, or even offered much later when a student goes on to a career in GIS—but seeing researchers that she has worked with intelligently apply GIS to their data is gratification enough.

"It's rewarding to know that I can make a positive difference in their academic journeys and help them learn to think in different ways than they normally would in the biological sciences."

Erichsen and Nielsen are among top faculty, staff and students who were recognized at the university's annual Celebrate! Teaching, Learning, Research event Sept. 19. ■

Cultural understanding begins at home for Vanier Scholar, Celebrate! honouree

Jamie Hanlon

As a former track and field coach, University of Alberta doctoral student Janine Tine knows a few things about challenges and competitions.

But the challenge before her—the one that forms the basis for her being one of 10 recently announced Vanier Canada Graduate Scholars from the U of A—is as much personal as it is professional. The married Métis grad student with two children, one just three months old,

is exploring how bicultural children are raised and understood by their parents—and how the information can be used by early childhood educators to ease this group's transition into school.

Tine is among top faculty, staff and students who were recognized at the university's annual Celebrate! Teaching, Learning, Research event Sept. 19.

Tine says that with a growing number of immigrants to Canada, the likelihood of intercultural marriages to Canadian-born spouses creates an opportunity for parents to identify how they are raising their children, and how their culturally constructed home environment transfers to school.

"There are taken-for-granted ideas of how children should be raised. It's something you can't necessarily articulate; you just think, 'Well, this is just the way it should be,'" said Tine. "In my research I want to draw out, through interviews, parents' understandings and views—their parental ethno-theories—so that these can be taken into the context of the early childhood classroom."

Married to a Senegalese Canadian, Tine says she understands first-hand the transactional process of raising children in a bicultural environment. Among the several couples she will interview, she's hoping to document the experiences of another Aboriginal person in a bicultural relationship to understand how two people, both from rapidly increasing populations, navigate child-rearing.

"I think there needs to be a better understanding of how these groups, immigrants and Aboriginal people, can work together and learn from each other," she said.

Her U of A experience has been rewarding. Initially attracted to the university because of its reputation for excellence, she returned to work on her PhD at the urging of professors in the Faculty of Education.



Janine Tine is one of 10 2013-14 Vanier scholars at the U of A.

She feels fortunate to receive the Vanier award and feels a sense of responsibility to move forward and create opportunities for others.

"I'd like to give back by encouraging other people to step up to leadership positions. Sometimes people don't take those positions unless someone provides them with the encouragement to do so."

Her U of A experience has also been replete with leadership opportunities, including working on the Elementary Education Department Council, facilitating the first annual Alliance Pipeline Young Women's Circle of Leadership program and organizing the first annual Elders' Forum for the Canadian Indigenous Language and Literacy Educational Studies on campus.

"I do have a passion for the Aboriginal culture. I believe success can be achieved by opportunities to both celebrate culture and further education," she said. "That's probably why there's a trickling of Aboriginal culture throughout my research and in my activities."

The Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, a \$150,000 award that funds recipients' research over three years, was developed, according to Vanier's website, to "attract and

retain world-class doctoral students and to establish Canada as a global centre of excellence in research and higher learning." Tine hopes her research and her roles of student, academic and mother will encourage others to pursue graduate studies alongside family duties.

"Pursuing my PhD but still wanting to be there for my children and my husband—I think sometimes women think it isn't possible, but it is," she said. "It's challenging... but that's where I can be seen as a role model in that it is possible to do both." ■

The U of A's 2013 Vanier Scholars

Clayton Bangsund, Law
Lindsay Eales, Phys Ed and Rec
Shaun Kerr, Engineering
Connie Le, Medicine & Dentistry
Katherine MacDonald, Arts
Daisy Raphael, Arts
Jody Reimer, Science
Tiago Simões, Science
Janine Tine, Education
Jocelyn Westwood, Engineering

OCTOBER 7, 2013
MONDAY, 5:00-7:00 P.M.

Centennial Lectures

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Resident artist renders the unseen world of nanotechnology

Michael Brown

In the world of nanotechnology, the objects being observed, manipulated and even built are often too small to absorb light and, thus, are too small to reflect colour.

The accompanying irony and host of challenges for a fine arts professor of painting being sent in to explore this literal black-and-white world of the extremely small was not lost on Allen Ball, who just finished off a year-long posting as the Scholar in Residence for Arts Research in Nanotechnology.

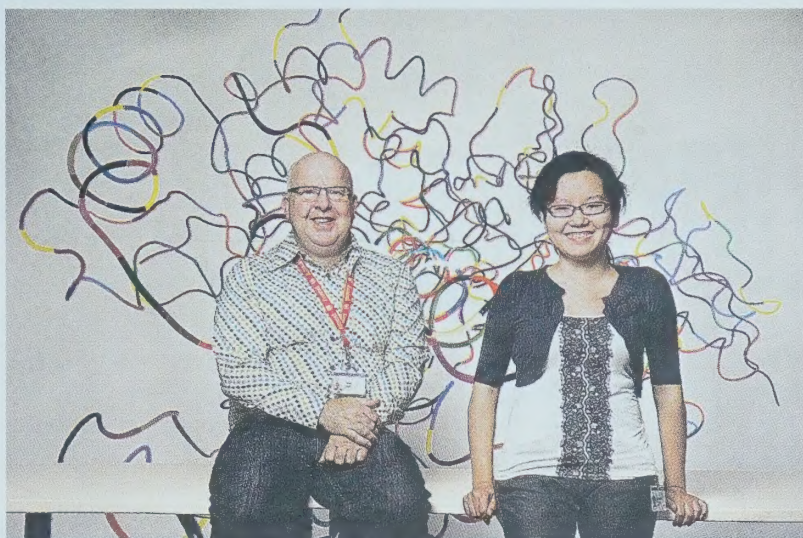
"A lot of a nanotechnology scientist's problems stem from the fact that they can't see what they're doing, literally," said Ball. "What a conundrum for a visual artist and a scientist alike—how do you visualize what's going on at that level?"

In applying to the residency, which was created by the Office of the Vice-President (Research) in 2010 to forge connections and dialogue between two seemingly opposite research cultures for mutual understanding and benefit, Ball proposed an idea to imagine nanotechnology in a public space.

"You can't imagine what it takes for scientists to visualize what they're doing; imagine how difficult it is for the public to engage in it," said Ball. "And the field is so vast, they cover so many different fields, there is no one image that people can connect nanotechnology with and be able to engage in it in a different way."

After being named artist in residence at the National Institute for Nanotechnology, Ball found himself wandering from lab to lab at NINT, talking to researchers about their work.

"It was a completely eye-opening experience for me. I had never been in science before, so it was a different way of working," he said. "I



Allen Ball and WenJaun Huang sit in front of their collaborative mural, Consumption, installed at NINT.

conceptualize ideas and go about creating them in the studio; I found there were similarities in the way they were realizing their problems."

The longtime fine arts alumnus admits answering the question was far more difficult to answer than he had anticipated.

"To the researcher, this incredibly complicated nanotechnology experiment is normal, but to the rest of us, we've never seen anything like it," said Ball. "The public has no grasp of how scientists are operating, but at the same time I think there are ways to visualize nanotechnology in a way that the public could be able to interact with it and become more sympathetic to it."

"In the end, I didn't just want to make this thing—that is so tiny you literally can't see it—palatable, I wanted to make it tangible and real and concrete."

"NINT is connected to the university, it is connected to the community and its researchers want to share and collaborate, and show others what they're doing."

Allen Ball

Along with the interviews and numerous photographs taken, Ball, with the help of WenJaun Huang, a post-doctoral fellow in computational chemistry, completed a mural of a co-enzyme of tuberculosis, aptly named *Consumption*. Ball says his painting resembles

a giant scribble, but is in fact what this material looks like at scale.

"Most imagery in science is in the form of equations and tidy models, but in reality this small world is pretty chaotic," he said. "I think our image of tuberculosis is much less intimidating to start to look at than a scientific model."

Ball says he chose to illustrate this aspect of tuberculosis because of its colloquial, out-of-use name, consumption. A disease that is characterized by the wasting away of body tissues, consumption is also often held up as a failing of modern society.

"By using nanotechnology, researchers are trying to make things that are faster, cheaper and use less material—all those things that impact consumption in a way that's beneficial—in a conscious effort to get more with less," said Ball.

And although his residency officially finished Sept. 1, Ball has plans to stay with this subject matter and see where it will take him.

"NINT is connected to the university, it is connected to the community and its researchers want to share and collaborate, and show others what they're doing," said Ball. "So artists can be evangelists for them and show others the good works they are doing because it is important and it is going to have a huge impact on our quality of life in the coming years. It's just a matter of time."

The next nanotechnology "evangelist" is Janet Wesseliuss, an associate professor of philosophy at Augustana Campus, who will take up the residency in January with a project entitled Thinking at the Nanoscale: Imaginative Metaphors and Ontological Implications. She is interested in how metaphors both enable and constrain our thinking about the nanoscale. ■



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New class of drug targets heart disease

Bryan Alary

Researchers at the University of Alberta have developed a synthetic peptide that could be the first in a new class of drugs to treat heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes.

Researchers at the U of A found that a deficiency in the peptide apelin is associated with heart failure, pulmonary hypertension and diabetes. They also developed a synthetic version that targets pathways in the heart and promotes blood vessel growth.

“Having this kind of environment that’s multidisciplinary and collaborative is absolutely critical to take a discovery to the next level.”

Gavin Oudit

Lead author Gavin Oudit, an associate professor in the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, said the synthetic form of apelin is far more stable and potent than the naturally occurring peptide, making drug therapies possible.

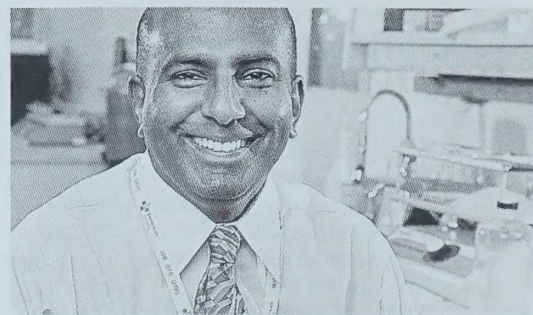
“It’s a new group of drugs that we hope can be used for a wide variety of disorders, all of which have a huge economic burden on the health-care system,” said Oudit, a cardiologist and clinician-scientist at the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute.

Oudit’s research group studied apelin deficiency in the hearts of mice and humans through the Human Explanted Heart Program, or HELP. The HELP program allows for the study of specimens obtained from patients undergoing a heart transplant.

The research team found that hearts from patients who suffered heart attacks were deficient in apelin, which is needed for angiogenesis—the formation of new blood vessels that helps the body adapt after tissue damage from heart attacks.

Oudit’s team has filed a provisional patent on the synthetic apelin and will continue work developing the drug to be more potent and clinically applicable. Once the drug is perfected, they’ll move into the first phase of clinical trials in two to three years.

Oudit said the breakthrough could not have happened without the contributions of U of A colleagues, including John Vederas, a medicinal chemist and professor in the Department of Chemistry, and Allan Murray, a clinician-scientist and nephrologist in the Department of Medicine.



Gavin Oudit

Wang Wang and Shaun McKinnie, both PhD students in Oudit’s and Vederas’s laboratories, also played a key role in this discovery.

“Having this kind of environment that’s multidisciplinary and collaborative is absolutely critical to take a discovery to the next level,” Oudit said. “We showed this kind of translational work can be done here, in Edmonton, at the University of Alberta.”

The study was published in the August issue of the *Journal of the American Heart Association*. Oudit’s research was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research, Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada and Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions. ■

U of A-led study finds heart fat is a concern for kidney disease patients

Raquel Maurier

International cardiac research led by a University of Alberta medical scientist shows fat deposits around the heart—which can be spotted through simple CT scans—can help predict the risk of death in patients with chronic kidney disease. But the test isn’t common clinical practice in Western Canada, says lead researcher Paolo Raggi.

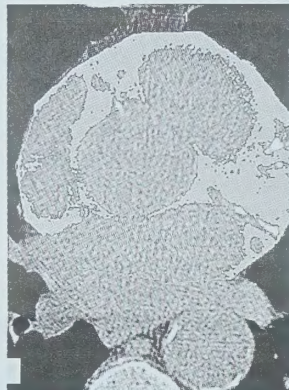
“We wanted to know if this type of heart fat is related to poor outcomes for patients with chronic kidney disease, and it was a very clear marker of risk,” says Raggi, a researcher with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and the academic director of the Mazankowski Alberta Heart Institute. “The greater the amount of fat around the heart, the greater the mortality rates were in patients.”

Raggi collaborated with colleagues from Venezuela, Italy and



A CT scan of a patient’s heart. The pink areas in the image at right show fat deposits around the heart, which can help predict the risk of death among people with chronic kidney disease.

the United States on the findings, which were published earlier this summer in the peer-reviewed journal *Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation*. Raggi, who works in the faculty’s Department of Medicine, is a world-renowned cardiologist who was recruited to the U of A.



His team examined CT scan results from 109 U.S. patients with chronic kidney disease from a randomized, clinical trial and discovered that as the volume of fat around the heart increased, so did the risk of death. For every 10 cubic centimetre increase in heart fat, the risk of death rose six per cent, notes

the article. Patients with higher than average amounts of heart fat had five-year survival rates of about 45 per cent—markedly lower than the 71 per cent survival rate for patients with lower than average amounts of heart fat.

The research also revealed that patients with chronic kidney disease had levels of heart fat similar to those among patients with coronary artery disease, and that the volume of heart fat rose with age and weight, and was more prevalent in Caucasians. The findings also showed that high levels of calcium or plaque in the arteries and high cholesterol levels were strong predictors of large volumes of heart fat. Previous research has shown a link between this heart fat and plaque buildup in the heart arteries.

The article notes that patients with chronic kidney disease do not usually receive CT heart scans. The authors recommend that clinical practice should include CT scans for these patients in the future, with

notes made on the test results about the amount of heart fat found.

“This is a new marker physicians can use for chronic kidney disease patients,” says Raggi. “It’s very easily implemented and costs little. Currently, it’s not used often enough in this part of Canada, and physicians should have a more flexible approach to consider looking for this marker, which can be used to quickly estimate risk for their patients. Don’t just look for calcium buildup in the arteries; look for fat volumes in the heart too.”

Raggi also cautions physicians not to assume that thin patients have small volumes of heart fat. He has seen both extremes—thin patients with high volumes and overweight patients with small amounts of this dangerous heart fat.

Raggi introduced heart CT scanning into medical practice in the United States 18 years ago. The test is now commonly used in the U.S. to predict risk of death for patients with chronic kidney disease. ■

Researchers show inhaled corticosteroids raise pneumonia risk

Bryan Alary

A University of Alberta researcher says health professionals should be cautious about prescribing inhaled corticosteroids to high-risk patients such as pneumonia survivors, citing a twofold risk for repeat infection.

Dean Eurich led a research team that examined inhaled corticosteroid use among elderly patients for a clinical study. The team evaluated more than 6,200 seniors who survived an initial episode of pneumonia but were still at high risk of developing another bout of infection.

Over the five-year study, 653 seniors had a repeat episode—and inhaled corticosteroid use was associated with a 90 per cent increase in risk for these repeat occurrences compared with the rate among those not using the drugs.

“Given the evidence starting to emerge on inhaled corticosteroids, health professionals have to use their own clinical judgment to try and determine which patients should remain on the drugs, especially for patients

with pneumonia,” said Eurich, an associate professor in the School of Public Health and trained pharmacist.

“When we set up this cohort, there was a ton of support from the University of Alberta and because there’s such a good relationship between the university and the health system, it easily facilitated our work.”

Dean Eurich

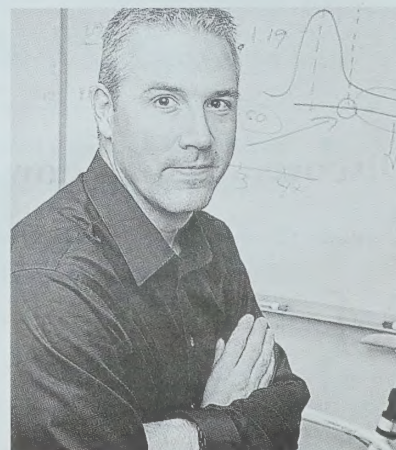
Inhaled corticosteroids are used to treat asthma and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease—chronic bronchitis and emphysema—as well as other respiratory disorders such as a nagging cough. Several smaller studies have examined the risk of developing pneumonia, but the U of A team is the first to look at such a large group of high-risk seniors.

More research is needed as to why these drugs pose a greater pneumonia risk, but for patients taking them, Eurich has healthy advice: listen to your health professional, wash your hands often and get vaccinated to reduce your risk of respiratory infections.

“Continue on your medications as your health professional has told you to use them. If you’re feeling unwell, if you are coughing or wheezing more, are more short of breath than usual, have chest pain when breathing deeply or coughing, feel fatigued, or develop a fever, see a physician sooner rather than later.”

Eurich says the new findings would not have been possible without talented collaborators such as Alberta Diabetes Institute colleague Sumit Majumdar of the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry and the faculty’s former dean, Tom Marrie, now at Dalhousie University, as well as data and support from Alberta Health and Alberta Health Services.

“When we set up this cohort, there was a ton of support from the University of Alberta and because there’s such a good relationship between the university and the



Dean Eurich

health system, it easily facilitated our work,” he said. “When researchers have access to data for population-based studies, we can look at safety issues with medications in real-world patients.”

The research was published last month in the peer-reviewed journal *Clinical Infectious Diseases*. It was funded by Alberta Innovates – Health Solutions and the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. ■

Engineering team develops new method to detect E. coli in water

Richard Cairney

A research team from the Faculty of Engineering has made a public health breakthrough by developing a device that detects E. coli bacteria in water much faster than previous methods.

Mechanical engineering professor Sushanta Mitra's team developed a sensor capable of detecting the potentially deadly bacteria in minutes—clearly improving on existing technology, which takes 24 to 48 hours to do the same job.

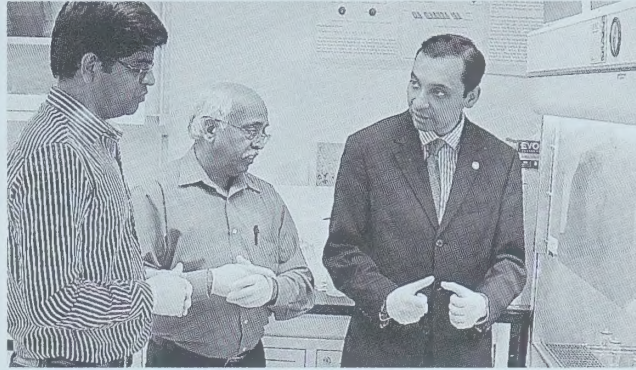
The team hopes to tie the new test to cellphone technology to alert health workers and members of the public that a water source is contaminated. The team is working with an Indian partner, Tata Consultancy Services, to make the device capable of setting off an alarm. The idea is that when the new sensors detect E. coli, text message alerts in the local language would be sent to public health workers and people who rely on wells for drinking water.

The device was tested on wells at remote communities in India (Khadavli, Mumbai) this summer by Mitra and graduate student Naga Siva Gunda. The project was funded by Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education following extensive planning by Mitra with researchers, institutes and industry from India.

“This is one good example of true translational research, which our province is very actively advocating for.”

Sushanta Mitra

Working with community health workers in India, Mitra's team tested water wells in different communities, each of which can serve hundreds of families. Although the water is typically treated with chlorine, the procedure is not implemented properly and bacterial infections still occur.



(From left) PhD student Naga Siva Gunda, Raj Naicker and Sushanta Mitra discuss tests on a new device they've developed to rapidly detect the presence of E. coli in water.

The technology is accessible because it is inexpensive.

“In order to have technology for the masses, it needs to be frugal—and this is a frugal innovation,” Mitra said.

The World Health Organization estimates that one billion people worldwide do not have access to an improved water supply at all, and more than two million people die each year from diarrheal diseases caused by unsafe water.

The new sensor could have a huge impact on public health by preventing water-borne illnesses.

“It feels extraordinary—the satisfaction is beyond words because of all the people this can touch,” Mitra said, adding that the team is returning to India next week to conduct further tests.

Mitra says the goal of the sensor is to “make it a cheap ‘go/no-go’ type of device.” The level of E. coli and total coliforms in these wells is

very high. An early warning device will make end-users aware of potential pathogen in water,” he said.

The sensor is a filter that traps E. coli. Coated with a chemical solution created in Mitra's lab by research associate Raj Naicker, the filter changes colour in the presence of the deadly bacteria.

The testing was successful in large part because Mitra and his team created an effective test bed for their sensors, including the King Edward Medical College, which is responsible for the Public Health Centre at Khadavli, and Tata Consultancy Services for providing the software support for the sensors to communicate with the wireless cellphone network.

“It's critical having this test bed with all of the partners involved,” Mitra said. “This couldn't be done any other way—we need these players to be involved to deploy game-changing technologies at a very cheap cost. Also, this is one good example of true translational research, which our province is very actively advocating for.” ■

Public health study shows helmet laws have positive impact on head injuries

Kate Toogood

Research from the University of Alberta shows that bicycle helmet legislation is having the right kind of impact on head injuries.

Professors Donald Voaklander and Duncan Saunders and PhD candidate Mohammad Karkhaneh in the School of Public Health have found that mandatory helmet legislation decreases head injuries in multiple age groups.

For the study, recently published in the *Journal of Accident Analysis and Prevention*, the researchers scrutinized Alberta Health data on hospitalizations and emergency department visits before and after helmet legislation was introduced. They looked at data from February 1999 to March 2007 involving child, teen and adult cyclists. To control for general trends in traffic injuries, the researchers included data on pedestrian injuries.

“We found that the rate of head injuries for child cyclists for both hospitalizations and emergency department visits decreased significantly (by nine per cent and 30 per cent

respectively), and head injuries in adolescents and adults decreased for hospitalizations (by 36 per cent and 24 per cent respectively),” said Voaklander.

“It's the data that will tell us what interventions are working and are helping people lead healthy, active lives.”

Donald Voaklander

“We found that the number of head injuries in emergency department visits increased marginally for adults after legislation was introduced, but that's probably attributable to the increased profile of and sensitivity to concussions in the past few years,” he added.

“When an adult hits their head, they're more likely today to be concerned about concussions and get checked out, but less likely to be hospitalized.”

Voaklander says this research is contrary to the results of other research—and to the views of helmet legislation critics who suggest enforcing helmet use doesn't reduce head injuries.

“The existing published research could reflect a cultural bias because it is published in journals from countries where the discussion on the importance of helmet legislation hasn't yet happened, and likely won't, given the ‘share the road’ culture that exists between drivers and cyclists in these countries,” he said. “It seems to be much safer to cycle in places such as Europe, so the need for people to wear helmets may not be as great.”

According to Voaklander, critics (including bicycling groups in Edmonton) have argued that such laws actually contribute to obesity and global warming by deterring people from biking because they don't own a helmet or don't want to wear one. He adds that there is currently a lot of pressure on cities to add drop-off bike programs, allowing people to borrow and return bicycles at various locations throughout the city. According to advocates, these programs help

combat obesity and reduce global warming, but Voaklander notes that the bikes available through these programs don't come with helmets. This results in a corporate interest in encouraging people to cycle, but not necessarily to cycle safely.

“The contention that people will cycle less if you make them wear helmets is unproven—in fact, cycling rates have gone up in Canada over the past few years,” Voaklander explains. “Now, it seems that a public health intervention is being incorrectly blamed for causing other public health problems.”

Voaklander says the research presents definitive evidence that helmets remain an important injury prevention strategy. He plans to conduct similar research in St. Albert, where a municipal law dictates that helmets must be worn by everyone, and compare the results with those from the rest of the province.

“In these situations, we need to put the desire for cycling-group membership or corporate investment aside and focus on the data. It's the data that will tell us what interventions are working and are helping people lead healthy, active lives.” ■

Discovery reveals how immune system inadvertently kills healthy cells

Raquel Maurier

Medical scientists at the University of Alberta have discovered how the immune system kills healthy cells while attacking infections. Their findings could one day lead to better treatments for cancer and viral infections.

Colin Anderson, a researcher with the Faculty of Medicine & Dentistry, recently published his team's findings in the peer-reviewed *Journal of Immunology*. His team included colleagues from the United States and the Netherlands, and graduate students from the U of A.

Previous research has shown that when the immune system launches an aggressive attack on infected cells, healthy tissues and cells can be killed or damaged in the process. Anderson and his team discovered the mechanisms in the immune system that cause this “overkill” response.

“This opens the opportunity that one might be able to manipulate the immune-system response to block collateral damage without



Colin Anderson

blocking the killing of infected cells,” Anderson explained.

“In the future, this might be important in the development of clinical treatments in cases where the immune system response needs to

be harnessed. For example, in treating various viral infections, the collateral damage caused during the immune-system attack is a large part of the illness.

“In other cases, such as cancer or tumour treatments, one may want to increase the immune system's ability to kill collateral cells, in hopes of killing tumour cells that would otherwise escape during treatment and spread elsewhere in the body. Our research suggests there are other mechanisms that could improve

cancer therapy and make it more efficacious. This finding could also help us understand why certain cancer treatments are more successful than others.”

Anderson's team discovered that “the weaponry the immune system uses to try to kill an infected or cancerous cell is not exactly the same as the weaponry that causes collateral damage to innocent bystander cells that aren't infected.” For years, it was assumed the weaponry to kill infected cells versus healthy cells was exactly the same.

The research group is continuing work in this area to see whether they can alter the level of collateral damage to healthy cells without altering the attack on infected cells.

Anderson is a researcher in the Department of Surgery and the Department of Medical Microbiology and Immunology. He is also a member of the Alberta Diabetes Institute and the Alberta Transplant Institute.

The research was funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research. ■



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news [shorts]

folio presents a sample of some of the stories that recently appeared on the [ualberta.ca news](http://ualberta.ca/news) page. To read more, go to www.news.ualberta.ca.

U of A forms pregnancy research alliance with China

The University of Alberta and Chongqing Medical University in China have formed an International Pregnancy Research Alliance. The partnership is designed to address several of the most serious pregnancy-related health issues, from preterm births to intrauterine growth restrictions to pre-eclampsia, a condition characterized by high blood pressure that can cause seizures in the mother and even death.

"It's really important that we translate the work we do. All the basic science research in the pregnancy field isn't going to help women and babies if we don't get it out into the clinic," Olson said.

Chongqing Medical University has created a new 300-square-metre laboratory dedicated to advancing pregnancy research. The facility is designed to attract researchers from around the world and will include staff from the U of A.

The Women and Children's Health Research Institute at the U of A has dedicated a graduate studentship to the alliance. It will allow some of the best and brightest Chinese exchange students to work in research labs at the U of A.

Representatives from the U of A and CQMU formed the research alliance last spring after some of the top minds in pregnancy health, including three faculty members from the U of A, attended an international conference on pregnancy research.

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Land reclamation grad school earns major award

After only two years in operation, the Faculty of ALES' Land Reclamation International Graduate School (LRIGS) earned its first major award.

LRIGS won the Canadian Land Reclamation Association's Edward M. Watkin Award in recognition of major contributions to land reclamation, especially through service to foster advances in regulation, reclamation success, or development of personnel or students. It is the first time in the association's history that the award was given to a school rather than an individual.

LRIGS director Anne Naeth accepted the award at the association's annual meeting earlier this month in Whitehorse. Coincidentally, all of the school's current students and its co-ordinator, Michal Guzowski, were on hand. Every year, LRIGS organizes a tour for students to visit reclaimed and disturbed sites and see first-hand the techniques used to conduct the work. This year, the 10-day tour took place in northern Canada and included attending the annual meeting.

LRIGS was established with funding from NSERC's CREATE program. It is the only graduate land reclamation school in the world, complementing ALES' four-year undergraduate program in land reclamation, the only one in Canada.

Naeth believes LRIGS received the award in part because of its innovative programming and because the national association sees the school as a great place to get highly trained and qualified people to work in land reclamation.

"By the time they graduate, we want our students to know land reclamation inside out, from the scientific and operational perspectives to the regulatory angle as well as the business imperatives that sometimes drive land reclamation."

Pisani joins Bears staff, Foster joins forwards

With expectations of another run at the University Cup, the Golden Bears hockey program bolstered its lineup on Wednesday by adding former Edmonton Oilers forward Fernando Pisani to the coaching staff.

"Fernando joins our program as a part-time coach who will work specifically with the development of our forwards," said Bears head coach Ian Herbers. "Ryan Marsh and I were both defencemen as players, so I felt it was important to bring in a coach who was a forward to help develop our guys up front. Fernando played NCAA hockey and then had many successful seasons in the NHL. We want him sharing those experiences with our players and reinforcing the work ethic, commitment, discipline, details and attitude it takes to become a professional hockey player. We are very excited to have him join the program as he is also a great person who fits into the Golden Bears culture of winning."

Pisani, who is already very active in the Edmonton hockey coaching scene, will coach with the Bears as his schedule permits. He'll attend practices and home games when possible, but will not travel with the Bears.

Input sought by engineering chair selection panel

A chair selection committee for the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering is being established. Suggestions and comments to this committee are to be made by Oct. 31 by writing David Lynch, dean of the Faculty of Engineering, E6-050 Engineering Teaching and Learning Complex.

Lifting international learning to new heights

Randy Lievers

Giving students a global experience during their time at the University of Alberta will have a renewed focus this fall thanks to some newly launched international initiatives.

University of Alberta International is working in partnership with various campus stakeholders to boost the number of students going abroad and to enrich the global perspective on campus, including a new certificate in international learning that recognizes the efforts of globally minded undergrads.

"We really want students to know that learning and the student experience shouldn't be limited by the boundaries of our campuses," says Britta Baron, vice-provost and associate vice-president (international). "The University of Alberta community spans around the world—through alumni, faculty connections and research collaborations—and students should take full advantage of international learning opportunities and this connectedness."

"Studies have shown that international learning and going abroad not only gives students a broader understanding of global issues, but also better prepares them for their future careers. They acquire cross-cultural expertise, gain new academic perspectives and develop real-world skills, especially through internships and work placement programs. These skills are increasingly sought after by employers. It's a way for students to stand out when they graduate—but the time to act is now."

Although the U of A offers more than 250 study-abroad programs in 40-plus countries—from exchanges in China and the Ukraine to internships in Brazil and Germany—only 14 per cent of undergraduates have studied or worked abroad by the time they graduate. The institutional goal is to push participation towards 20 per cent by 2015.

"We're putting education abroad at an elevated level. I want the U of A to be the place in Canada for students to find meaningful opportunities for education abroad," says Baron.

"Our goal is to help all our students—both Canadian and international—to develop intercultural and international competence, giving them a better start into a global career."

The Certificate in International Learning is a new academic credential for undergraduate students that

recognizes international achievements such as studying or working abroad, training in intercultural communication and living in the International House residence.

The certificate involves U of A coursework with a global focus, international experiences or cross-training, plus a reflective capstone project.

Undergraduate students in any faculty may enrol in the embedded certificate—meaning students earn the certificate and their undergraduate degree at the same time.

Students normally enrol within the first two years of their undergraduate degree, but the certificate will be offered to students starting their third and fourth year this fall.

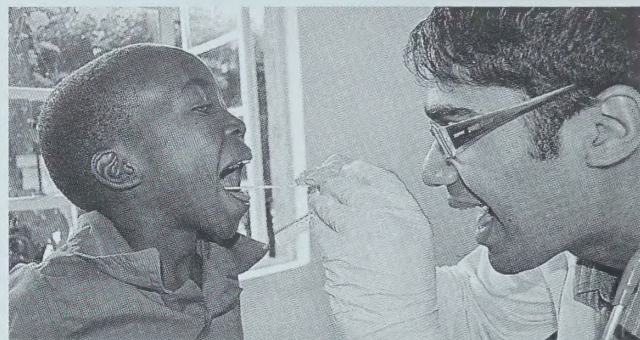
The U of A is also expanding locations for its e3 education abroad summer program—a "mix and match" model that offers students up to three experiences in one location.

Initially delivered in summer 2013, e3 in Berlin allowed students to explore the cultural and political dimensions of Germany through three program components:

German language study, a work or research internship placement, and an academic course.

Twenty-two students from various faculties participated in e3 in Berlin. Students were placed at some of Germany's leading cultural and political organizations, and even had impromptu opportunities to meet top decision-makers in the EU and Germany, including Chancellor Angela Merkel.

A new offering is set for summer 2014—e3 in Brazil, delivered in Curitiba. Undergraduate students from all faculties will have the chance to explore the social and political impact of sports and large-scale athletic events, just as Brazil hosts the 2014 World Cup and prepares for the 2016 Summer Olympics. ■



The U of A's education-abroad programs help students gain cross-cultural expertise and real-world skills that give them a career edge after graduation.

Funding opportunities for international projects

Education Abroad Group Awards and Campus Alberta Grant for International Learning

University of Alberta International is pleased to announce application details for the Education Abroad Group Awards and the Campus Alberta Grant for International Learning competition.

The Education Abroad Group Awards are funded by the University of Alberta; the Campus Alberta Grant for International Learning is funded by Alberta Enterprise and Advanced Education. Both support group-based study abroad initiatives by U of A professors, faculties and other administrative units.

A single application form and adjudication process is used for both awards. Group programs starting between Jan. 1, 2014, and April 30, 2015, are eligible.

The total funding awarded to a group-based program will be based on the duration of the abroad program and the number of students participating. The source of funding will be determined during the selection process.

The deadline to apply is 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 15.

International Project Fund

Applications are also being accepted for the October 2013 UAI International Project Fund competition.

The fund provides grants of up to \$6,000 to U of A faculty and staff to support and facilitate sustainable and reciprocal projects between the U of A and collaborating institutions worldwide.

Support is given to new, innovative and sustainable projects that bring an international focus to the U of A's academic, research and teaching mandate.

The deadline for applications is Monday, Oct. 21. For more information about these opportunities, go to international.ualberta.ca.

laurels

Morris Flynn, an assistant professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, won this year's Confederation of Alberta Faculty Associations Distinguished Academic Early Career Award. The award recognizes academic staff members who, at an early stage of their careers, have made an outstanding contribution to the wider community beyond the university. CAFA is the provincial organization representing academic staff associations at the universities of Alberta, Lethbridge and Athabasca.

Larry Kostiuk, a professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering, and Tongwen Chen, a professor in the Department of Electrical and Computer

Engineering, were named fellows of the Canadian Academy of Engineering for their distinguished achievements and career-long service to the engineering discipline.

Hani Henein, Doug Ivey and Barry Wiskel, professors in the Department of Chemical and Materials Engineering, received the 2013 Charles Hatchett Award from the Institute of Materials, Minerals and Mining for a paper they wrote on the science and technology of niobium and its alloys.

John Wilson, professor in the Department of Earth and Atmospheric Sciences, received the Patterson Medal from Environment Canada for his distinguished service to meteorology.

New doctor of pharmacy program to focus on clinical experience

Bryan Alary

A new University of Alberta pharmacy program will give students and working pharmacists the hands-on clinical skills they need to ensure patients receive the best possible care.

The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences this fall launched the doctor of pharmacy program, or PharmD. The after-degree program will provide enhanced clinical training to pharmacy graduates with a bachelor's degree, including many working pharmacists looking to upgrade their skills in light of the profession's expanded scope of practice.

"Unlike a PhD, which tends to focus on research, PharmD is a clinical degree and it focuses on clinical expertise," said program director and assistant professor Catherine McCann. "We've put the emphasis on experiential education through clinical rotations. It's like a fast track for clinical experience."

McCann said the same level of clinical expertise that would typically take a pharmacist with a bachelor's degree five to 10 years to develop as a practitioner can be obtained during the 12- to 14-month PharmD program through high-level rotations working with patients in acute-care and community-based settings.

Rotations will give students experience working as part of a large team of health professionals such as physicians, nurses and

physiotherapists in settings such as hospitals, primary care networks and family care clinics. They also have an opportunity to specialize in complex areas of practice, such as a family practice, intensive care or cardiology, said McCann.

Hazal Babadagli is one of 10 PharmD students in the inaugural class of 2014—all recent pharmacy grads. Babadagli said she jumped at the chance to enhance her clinical skills given the broadening scope of

pharmacy practice, which in Alberta now includes prescribing some medications, administering injections and vaccines, and interpreting lab tests.

"The Faculty of Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences is one of the best in Canada. I felt the U of A and PharmD was a perfect match for me. I can enhance my knowledge and education now and give myself an early start in my career," Babadagli, 23, said of her plans to work with patients in a clinical setting.

Hugo Leung, an Edmonton-based pharmacist and U of A alumnus, embraces the opportunity to work alongside PharmD students as a mentor during their rotations, helping them expand their skill sets and, ultimately, help more patients lead healthier lives.

"Pharmacy really is changing," Leung said, noting the profession is moving away from the traditional role of passive pill dispenser. "Now, you're expected to be a full clinician, valued for knowledge and decision-making, someone who can work

with patients at a more fundamental level to help them make good choices for their health. It's not just about digesting science, it's translating that science in a way that patients can understand. It's a very different skill set."

McCann said the move to PharmD is part of a larger nationwide push toward more clinically focused training given changes to the profession. The faculty plans to expand the PharmD program next year with a mix of recent graduates and working pharmacists—a move she added reinforces the U of A's reputation as a national leader in pharmacy education and training.

"We're the only profession that spends our entire educational career learning about medication. While other health professions are involved in medication use, pharmacists take a holistic view of a patient's medication regimen," she said. "Patients in Alberta deserve to have someone who has oversight on their whole medication regimen." ■



PharmD student Hazal Babadagli works with pharmacist Hugo Leung while providing medication advice to a patient. The newly created program emphasizes hands-on clinical training to improve patient care.

Debate champ makes solid case for U of A

Bryan Alary

Henry Su always does his homework. Before entering a classroom, engaging in a debate or making a big life decision like attending post-secondary at the University of Alberta, Su puts a lot of research into honing an argument.

Su, 17, begins his studies in engineering this fall with dreams of one day developing energy sources that are both economically and environmentally viable. It's a carefully thought-out plan, coming from a member of the Canadian National Debate Team who has twice won provincial championships and is a two-time national debate finalist.

"I had to do a lot of research about the different universities I applied to, and from what I learned, engineering is a big priority and a source of pride at the U of A," says Su, this year's recipient of the university's 2013 President's Centenary Entrance Citation.

Su is among top faculty, staff and students who were recognized at the university's

annual Celebrate! Teaching, Learning, Research event Sept. 19.

The \$50,000 award is the university's most prestigious undergraduate scholarship recognizing academic excellence in high school, where Su had a 98 per cent average at Calgary's Western Canada High School.

Su says he's honoured to receive the prestigious award, receiving the news while—no surprise—studying for international baccalaureate exams last spring. His academic achievements and debate prowess are a telling indication of his passion and drive to succeed in everything he does.

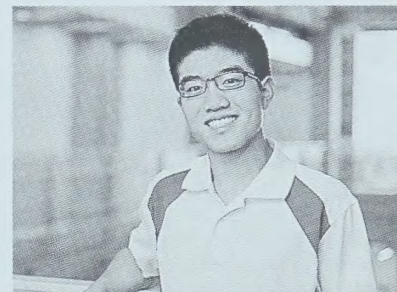
The accolades are many: world champion team in Grade 8 in the FIRST Tech Challenge International Robotics Competition; finalist in the Canadian Biology Olympiad; best delegate at local interscholastic Model United Nations conferences; math club member; science fair and Olympic award winner. He even had a hand creating a short film presented at Anime ta Francophonie, winning regional honours en route to an international competition.

Su credits much of his drive to the example set by two people in his life: his friend and fellow academic star Alex Rodrigues, and his grandfather, Jianguo Su.

"He's a really great man in my opinion—strong, a great moral compass and always shows a desire to learn," he says of his grandfather, a retired engineer now in his eighties who has maintained a lifelong passion for learning. "He's always reading up about the human body, English and science. That's very inspirational. At that age some people lose the drive to continue learning, but he hasn't."

Su credits his friend for sparking his interest in debate and other activities that at first were outside his comfort zone. Pushing himself to new limits is part of the reason for choosing the U of A—living, studying and carving his own path in a city away from friends and family in Calgary.

Of course, the quality of the U of A's engineering school was the major factor, noting the strong reputations of both the chemical and petroleum programs. He looks forward to the Faculty of Engineering's Co-op



Henry Su

Program, which he says is a great opportunity to integrate working and learning, gaining invaluable knowledge from working engineers.

Su's first visit to the U of A came a few years ago for a math camp, an experience in which he got to tour many science labs and nanotech facilities. "The campus is very nice and it seemed like a very advanced, innovative, but also comfortable university to be at."

At this point, Su says it's too early to say how he wants to follow up his undergraduate studies; he's just excited to get started. The future is wide open and, if there's any one sure bet, it's that Su will do his homework.

"I'm really excited for school to start, excited to go to campus and meet people." ■

talks & events

Talks & Events listings do not accept submissions via fax, mail, email or phone. Please enter events you'd like to appear in folio and at www.news.ualberta.ca/events. A more comprehensive list of events is available online at www.events.ualberta.ca. Deadline: noon one week prior to publication. Entries will be edited for style and length.

OCT. 1

Royal Society of Canada Governor General Lecture Series. From coral reefs to malaria, Patrick Keeling, a botany professor at the University of British Columbia, will give some evolutionary perspective of intracellular parasites. 4–5 p.m. L1-140 CCIS.

OCT. 2, 9 & 16

More than Natural Selection: A Lecture Series on Alfred Russel Wallace. Anthropologist Kathleen Lowrey (Oct. 2); historian Robert Smith (Oct. 9); and Andrew Berry, evolutionary biologist from Harvard University (Oct. 16) will be on hand to talk about the underappreciated contributions 19th-century British naturalist Wallace made in the areas of evolution, astronomy and the hyperdiversity of beetles. All talks 3:30–5 p.m. 2-58 Tory.

OCT. 3

Annual Toby and Saul Reichert Holocaust Lecture. Susan Zuccotti, author and Holocaust and general Western European historian, will be on hand to give a talk entitled *The Vatican and the Holocaust in Italy*. 5–7 p.m. Tory Lecture Theatre 12.

OCT. 5

54th Annual Turkey Trot in Support of the United Way Campaign. This fun run includes four- and eight-kilometre

distances around North Campus. A portion of your registration will be donated to the United Way. Registration runs until Oct. 2. \$20 for students, \$30 for non-students and \$60 for families. 10:30 a.m.–noon.

OCT. 9

Educated Luncheon: Benefits of Exercise for Your Heart. Mark Haykowsky, professor in the Department of Physical Therapy, is giving a talk on taking care of your heart so your heart will take care of you. Noon–1 p.m. Enterprise Square.

Applying to the CIHR Fellowship Competition – Tips & Considerations. Paige Lacy, professor in the Department of Medicine, will be on hand to lead this discussion. Lacy has served as a peer reviewer on the CIHR Fellowship review panel since 2010. Register at rsoregistration.ualberta.ca. 1:30–2:30 p.m.

OCT. 16

The Educated Leader Launch. Marvin Washington will lead off this three-part series for managers and executives wanting to explore the demands of leadership and the skills required to effectively lead. His talk will focus on core questions that must be actively explored as you refine your approach work and life. \$40 includes meal. 5:30 p.m. 2-157 Enterprise Square.

OCT. 17

Educated Wallet: U.S. Real Estate Investment. Real estate and tax expert Roy Berg will lead this discussion about purchasing real estate in the U.S. 5:30–8:30 p.m. \$25 includes dinner. 134 TELUS Centre. katy.yachimec@ualberta.ca.

classified ads

A CAMPUS MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held for Professor Emeritus of English Rowland McMaster, who died last July. The service takes place Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 4 p.m. in the Papaschase Room at the Faculty Club.

FACULTY MIXED CURLING LEAGUE. For faculty members, support staff, spouses. Starts Monday, October 21, at 5 p.m. Jasper Place rink. Contact brian.dunford@ualberta.ca.



TUCK SHOP EVERLASTING

PHOTOS
RICHARD SIEMENS
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS



For more than half a century, the Tuck Shop—also known as the Varsity Tuck Shop, or simply Tuck—was the gathering place for students and became renowned for its coffee and classic cinnamon buns. And although its 112 Street location closed for good in 1970, reincarnations of the famed university hangout pop up in Quad every year during Alumni Weekend, so alumni, students, faculty and staff can enjoy musical entertainment, sample a famous Tuck Shop cinnamon bun, find out about events or join a campus tour. Watch a time-lapse video of this year's Tuck Shop Tent at <http://bit.ly/1959kTY>

